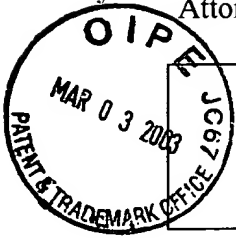


10/10/03  
Allways  
9/10/03



**Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 — Expedited Procedure —  
Examining Group 2662**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
 )  
Hughes, David A., et al. )  
 )  
Serial No. 09/250,968 )  
 )  
Filed: 02/16/1999 )  
 )  
For: METHOD FOR IMPLEMENTING )  
AUTOMATIC PROTECTION )  
SWITCHING (APS) USING CELL )  
REPLICATION )

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 05 2003**

**Technology Center 2600**

Examiner: Logsdon, Joseph

Art Unit: 2662

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
BOX AF  
Washington, D.C. 20231

OK to enter,

Sir:

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE  
AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

In response to the Final Office Action mailed November 5, 2002, applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider the following remarks: